

friend, Ms. Audrey R. Johnson-Thornton. Ms. Johnson-Thornton is the president and founder of the American Women's Heritage Society, and was instrumental in turning the broken down Belmont Mansion into a museum to honor those who aided slaves in their flight to freedom.

The Belmont Mansion was named as the most significant structure to be at risk in an assessment of ten historic structures in Fairmount Park in Philadelphia. This finding was followed by a historical study and architectural analysis of the Belmont Mansion Historical Structures Report and then became the first major project of the Fairmount Park Historic Preservation Trust in 1994. The Underground Railroad Museum at Belmont Mansion is one of the first 2,000 recipients to receive funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and its partner the American Association for State and Local History. The American Women's Heritage Society still operates the now restored mansion as a historic site. Ms. Johnson-Thornton will be honored by the Marian Anderson Historical Society on May 31, 2014.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose leadership and commitment to preserving our city's history has enriched the lives of countless individuals. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Ms. Johnson-Thornton for her lifetime of service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING PRESENCE MERCY
MEDICAL CENTER'S SAFETY AND
SECURITY DEPARTMENT

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Safety and Security Department of Presence Mercy Medical Center in Aurora, Illinois. Safety and security is a growing concern for healthcare facilities, and Presence Mercy Medical Center has responded by preparing their security team to prevent crimes before they begin and respond to criminal activity promptly.

The 2012 Crime and Security Trends Survey conducted by the International Association for Healthcare Security and Safety (IAHSS) highlights the increasing dangers healthcare workers face. The survey found that in 2012 there were over 20,500 crimes committed in healthcare facilities, a 37 percent rise from 2010.

The Safety and Security Department at Presence Mercy Medical Center has responded to these recent developments by exposing their security officers to comprehensive training and preparation programs. All of their department's members have studied, tested, and received certification in Basic Training by the IAHSS, 92 percent have received Advanced certification, and 83 percent have received Supervisor certification.

These efforts have made Presence Mercy a model security team at a time when healthcare safety and security is a significantly mounting concern.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Safety and Security Depart-

ment members for their excellence in safety and security preparation:

Doug Kaiser; Robert Lea; Christian Pfister; Darin Northern; Jim Rees; Victor Jimenez; Miguel Saenz; Kerry Haggard; Tom Greiner; David Oliver; Nora Rodriguez.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2014
SERVICE ACADEMY APPOINTEES
FROM THE 21ST CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT OF TEXAS

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2014 Service Academy appointees from the 21st Congressional District of Texas.

The following individuals have accepted academy appointments:

Lois May Agabon, MacArthur High School, Northwestern Preparatory School, United States Air Force Academy; Austin Wayne Beals, Fredericksburg High School, United States Air Force Academy; David Phillip Castaneda, San Antonio Christian High School, Naval Academy Preparatory School, United States Naval Academy; Jonathan Castaneda, San Antonio Christian High School, United States Naval Academy; Sterling Michael Clark, Canyon High School, United States Naval Academy; Conner Hugh Drum, Canyon Lake High School, Greystone Preparatory School at Schreiner University, United States Military Academy; Devlin Patrick Gilligan, Claudia Taylor "Lady Bird" Johnson High School, United States Air Force Academy; Preston Joseph Horejsi, Medina High School, United States Military Academy; Aldon William Clifford Pagio, AFNorth International High School (the Netherlands), University of Texas at San Antonio, United States Merchant Marine Academy; Jackson Symon Parrish, Saint Mary's Hall, United States Naval Academy; Travis John Phelan, John S. Burke Catholic School (New York), United States Military Academy; James Cooper Rast, Claudia Taylor "Lady Bird" Johnson High School, United States Air Force Academy; Jordan Gregory Sekula, New Braunfels Christian Academy, United States Merchant Marine Academy; and Collin Taylor Stone, Alamo Heights High School, United States Military Academy.

Again, congratulations to these outstanding students. I know they will serve our country well and I trust success will follow them in all their endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, due to attending a previously scheduled event in Maryland, I was absent from votes in the House on Monday evening, May 19 and missed rollcall votes 218–219. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both rollcall No. 218, H.R. 2203, and No. 219, H.R. 685.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RURAL
WIND ENERGY EXPANSION ACT
OF 2014

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the "Rural Wind Energy Development Act," to provide an investment tax credit to ranchers, farmers, and small businesses to offset the up-front costs of owning a distributed wind turbine. I am pleased to again be working with my friend Congressman Cole of Oklahoma in offering this modest expansion of current law that will keep small business energy jobs growing across the United States.

Distributed wind systems are electric generators that produce up to 20 megawatts of clean and renewable energy for homes, farms, and small businesses. With these turbines, individuals can generate their own power, often independent from the electric grid. These wind turbines allow farmers, ranchers, and other consumers to cut their energy bills and, at times, sell power back into the grid. They also allow thousands of businesses—from "mom and pop" stores, to retailers, to ranches, and to breweries—to reduce their energy load, to help clean the environment, and to save money. All you need is pretty good wind and a little land.

At best there has been unsteady federal support for distributed wind systems and there has been no federal tax support until the past several years.

In many cases, this is not only American produced electricity, but American manufactured electricity as well. Approximately 90 percent of distributed wind turbines sold in the U.S. are made here, according to domestic manufacturing content.

My bill also supports locally owned, or "community," wind power. The Department of Energy's national laboratories estimate that community wind generates a strong economic multiplier for local communities, helping rural areas rebound from challenging economic times.

The federal Production Tax Credit, PTC, applies mainly to large utility-scale wind projects, not to individuals who install their own wind systems for on-site power. The existing investment credit, which may be taken in lieu of the PTC, has worked very well. My legislation provides an additional option and bars taking a double-benefit from these tax supports. This additional tool will provide stability and certainty for the distributed wind market to unlock the necessary investment to grow our global leadership role in distributed wind power. It will also help farmers, consumers, and businesses afford pollution-free energy.

This legislation strikes the existing 100 kilowatt nameplate limitation for small wind systems, and expands the maximum wind turbine size to 20 megawatts, in line with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission definition of distributed wind power. Other agencies depend on this figure as a cut off between smaller-scale or "community" wind power and larger wind farms. There is no similar cap for solar, and, as the community wind industry grows and produces jobs, so should the opportunity for projects that still meet the threshold for distributed wind.